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POL 33-1 JORDAN RIVER

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Action

NEA
Info
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NNNNHB ZPZXTJ
DHFDHLVV QMA458VLA057
RR RUEHCR
DE RUQMVL 131A 05/1400Z
R 051345Z ZEA
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUQMKG/AMEMBASSY AMMAN
RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
RUQMDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
RUFHDN/AMEMBASSY LONDON
RUQMJR/AMCONGEN JERUSALEM
ZEN/AMEMBASSY CAIRO
ZEN/USUN
ZEN/CINCSTRIKE CINCMEAFSA
STATE GRNC
BT

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY S. Dungan DATE 2/1/84

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TS AUTH. REASON(S).
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ACTION ~~DEPT 1271 INFO AMMAN 291 BEIRUT 317~~ DAMASCUS 222 LONDON 238 JERUSALEM 276 CAIRO USUN CINCSTRIKE/ CINCMEAFSA UNN FROM TELAVIV APR 5, 4PM

JORDAN WATERS

STATE OF WEEKEND ITEMS ON ARAB DIVERSION PLAN APPEARED IN ALMOST ALL MAJOR PAPERS APRIL 4 AND 5. BAATZOFEH AND LAMERHAV EMPHASIZE EXTRAORDINARY SECURITY PRECAUTIONS BEING TAKEN BY LEBANESE, INCLUDING ROAD CHECKS, MILITARY "QUARANTINE" OF BORDER REGION, AND SPECIAL PERMITS REQUIRED. LAMERHAV SAYS PLANS BEING DRAWN UP FOR EVACUATING RESIDENTS ON BANKS OF HASBANI AND WAZAN.

OPPOSITION HERUT CLAIMS GOI HAS SUCCUMBED TO US AND BRITISH PRESSURES IN THAT, WHILE NOT FORMALLY COMMITTING ITSELF, GOI HAS GIVEN THESE GOVERNMENTS TO UNDERSTAND IT WILL REFRAIN FROM TAKING ACTION "AS LONG AS BALANCE OF FORCES MAINTAINED." US AND BRITISH FEEL ARABS DO NOT INTEND CARRY OUT THEIR THREATS, ALTHOUGH THEY APPEAR HAVE NO ARAB ASSURANCES THAT EFFECT. HOWEVER, ISRAEL WILL NOT TAKE WATER ISSUE TO UN, SINCE IT REGARDS ITS RIGHTS AS FUNDAMENTAL AND NOT REQUIRING CONFIRMATION.

PARIS CORRESPONDENT OF DAVAR WRITES THAT FRENCH, UNLIKE US, BELIEVE ARABS ARE SERIOUS ABOUT DIVERSION PLANS AND ARE THEREFORE MAKING DIRECT EFFORT HOLD LEBANESE BACK FROM "ADVENTURE" WHICH WOULD SERVE NASSER PURPOSES. FRENCH WILL ATTEMPT DISSUADE PRESIDENT HELOU FROM PRESENT COURSE DURING HIS FORTHCOMING PARIS VISIT.

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MAARIV REPORTS ON FIFTH THAT SYRIANS HAVE RESUMED WORK ON BANIAS DIVERSION, AFTER HAVING PROVIDED FOR NEW UAC VIGILANCE ALONG BORDERS, INCLUDING TROOP MOVEMENTS IN SYRIA, LEBANON AND IRAQ. SEPARATE ARTICLE NOTES LEBANESE GOVT'S DESCRIPTION OF WADI'S ROAD PROJECT AS STRICTLY LOCAL AND UNCONNECTED WITH DIVERSION PLANS, BUT SAYS ISRAEL AUTHORITIES DO NOT ACCEPT THIS DESCRIPTION AND ISRAEL'S WARNING TO LEBANON STILL STANDS.

COMMENT: ARMISTICE AFFAIRS DIRECTOR KIDRON CONFCPAZ* SYRIAN WORK RESUMED ON BANIAS DIVERSION "TWO OR THREE DAYS AGO." WORK ON SOUTHERN END OF ROADWAY, ABOUT 8 TO 9 KILOMETERS SOUTH OF TEL WADI. BARBOUR
BT
GFN 8 9
* As received